

## ANUVAKA VI.

STfETA L (XXIV.)

This is the first of a series of seven Hymns constituting this section, attributed to S'UNAH&PA, the son of AjiGASTA.<sup>a</sup> The

metre is *TrisJifulk*, except in stanzas three, four, and five, in which it is *Gdyatri*. The first verse is addressed to PBAJAPATI;

the second, to AGNI ; the three next, to SIVITEI, or the last of the three, to BHAGA ; the rest, to VAB.UNA\*

I. Of whom, or of which divinity of the immortal Varga xm.

<sup>a</sup> The story of *Simahsejpa*, or, as usually written, *Shnafisejpa*, has been, for some time, known to Sanskrit students, through the version of it presented in the *Rdmayana*, b. i. s. ch. 61, Schlegel; 63, Gorresio. He is, there, called the son of the *Rislii* *Rieliika*, and is sold for a hundred cows, by his father, to *Amlarisha*, king of *Ayodhydy* as a victim for a human sacrifice.. On the road, he comes to the lake *Pushkara*^ where he sees *Vtswdmitra*, and implores his succour, and learns, from him, a prayer, by the repetition of which, at the stake, *Indr&|*\$ indnced'to come and set him free. It is obvious, that this story has been derived from the *Veda*; for *Viswdmitra*, teaches him, according to Schlegel's test, two *gdthaSy*—according to GorresLo's, a *mantra*: but the latter also states, that he propitiated *Indra* by *Richas*; *mantras* of the *Rig- Veda* (*Riglliis tusMdva deveiidrain*| Vol. L, p. 249. *Mann* also alludes to the story (X., 105), where it is said that *Ajigarta* incurred no guilt by giving up his son to be sacrificed; as it was to preserve himself and family from perishing with

hunger. *Kullu-*  
*kajBJiat't'a* names the son *BmiaMeplia*, and refers, for  
 his authority, to  
 the *Bahwricha BraJimana*. The story is told, in full  
 detail, in the  
*Aitareyafirdhmana*; but the *Raj a* is named  
*Harischandra*. He has  
 no sons, and worships *Varuna-9* in order to obtain a  
 son, promising  
 to sacrifice to him his first-born. He has a son, in  
 consequence,  
 named *Rajrita*; but, when *Y&ru&a* claims his victim,  
 the king delays  
 the sacrifice, under various pretexts, from time to  
 time, until *Rojiita*